

What is claimed is:

CLAIMS

1. A method comprising:

generating, at least in part, an identifier to be associated with a group of at least two devices, the identifier being generated, at least in part, based, at least in part, upon respective source identifiers of the at least two devices.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the respective source identifiers comprise respective numbers; and

the generating comprises:

rotating one of the respective numbers to generate a rotated number; and

performing a logical exclusive-or of the other of the respective numbers

with the rotated number.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein:

the generating, at least in part, further comprises:

rotating a value to generate a rotated value; and

performing a logical exclusive-or of the rotated value with a result of the logical exclusive-or of the other of the respective numbers with the rotated number.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein:

the value is based, at least in part, upon an activation time.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein:

at least one of the source identifiers comprises a vendor identification.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising:

extracting the vendor identification from a world wide name identifying, at least in part, at least one of the at least two devices.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the at least two devices comprise physical devices.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

generating, at least in part, a world wide name (WWN) to be associated with the group of devices, the WWN being generated, at least in part, based, at least in part, upon the identifier to be associated with the group of devices.

9. An apparatus comprising:

circuitry to generate, at least in part, an identifier to be associated with a group of devices, the group of devices comprising at least two devices, the circuitry being capable of generating, at least in part, the identifier based, at least in part, upon respective source identifiers of the at least two devices.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein:

the respective source identifiers comprise respective numbers; and

the circuitry is also capable of:

rotating one of the respective numbers to generate a rotated number; and

performing a logical exclusive-or of the other of the respective numbers

with the rotated number.

11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein:

the circuitry is also capable of :

rotating a value to generate a rotated value; and

performing a logical exclusive-or of the rotated value with a result of the logical exclusive-or of the other of the respective numbers with the rotated number.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein:

the value is based, at least in part, upon an activation time.

13. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein:

at least one of the source identifiers comprises a vendor identification.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein:

the circuitry is also capable of extracting the vendor identification from a world wide name identifying, at least in part, at least one of the at least two devices.

15. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein:

the at least two devices comprise physical devices.

16. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein:

the circuitry is also capable of generating, at least in part, a world wide name (WWN) to be associated with the group of devices, the WWN being generated, at least in part, based, at least in part, upon the identifier to be associated with the group of devices.

17. An article comprising:

a storage medium having stored therein instructions that when executed by a machine result in the following:

generating, at least in part, an identifier to be associated with a group of devices, the group of devices comprising at least two devices, the identifier being generated, at least in part, based, at least in part, upon respective source identifiers of the at least two devices.

18. The article of claim 17, wherein:

- the respective source identifiers comprise respective numbers; and
the generating, at least in part, comprises:
rotating one of the respective numbers to generate a rotated number; and
performing a logical exclusive-or of the other of the respective numbers with the rotated
number.
19. The article of claim 18, wherein:
the generating, at least in part, further comprises:
rotating a value to generate a rotated value; and
performing a logical exclusive-or of the rotated value with a result of the
logical exclusive-or of the other of the respective numbers with the rotated number.
20. The article of claim 19, wherein:
the value is based, at least in part, upon an activation time.
21. The article of claim 17, wherein:
at least one of the source identifiers comprises a vendor identification.
22. The article of claim 21, wherein the instructions when executed also result in:
extracting the vendor identification from a world wide name identifying, at least
in part, at least one of the at least two devices.
23. The article of claim 17, wherein:
the at least two devices comprise physical devices.
24. The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed also result in:
generating, at least in part, a world wide name (WWN) to be associated with the
group of devices, the WWN being generated, at least in part, based, at least in part, upon
the identifier to be associated with the group of devices.

25. A system comprising:
 - a circuit board comprising a circuit card slot; and
 - a circuit card capable of being inserted into the slot, the circuit card comprising circuitry to generate, at least in part, an identifier to be associated with a group of devices, the group of devices comprising at least two devices, the circuitry being capable of generating, at least in part, the identifier based, at least in part, upon respective source identifiers identifying of the at least two devices.
26. The system of claim 25, wherein:
 - the circuit board also comprises a processor coupled to a bus; and
 - the circuit card slot is also coupled to the bus.
27. The system of claim 25, wherein:
 - a redundant array of inexpensive disks (RAID) comprises the at least two devices.
28. The system of claim 27, wherein:
 - the circuit card is coupled to the RAID.
29. The system of claim 25, wherein:
 - the circuit card is coupled to the at least two devices via a network.